

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 00975 011319Z
ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 HEW-04 COME-00 NSF-01 AGRE-00
EB-08 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 USIE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 /040 W
-----011324Z 005971 /45
O 312210Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9627

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BOGOTA 00975

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OCLR, TGEN, CO
SUBJECT: ALPHA HELIX EXPEDITION - PHASE VII

REF: BOGOTA 0865 AND PREVIOUS

1. AS REPORTED REFTEL, EMBASSY OFFICERS MET FOR TWO HOURS WITH COLOMBIAN INTERINSTITUTIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE, MONDAY MORNING, JANUARY 31. FOLLOWING WERE SALIENT POINTS DISCUSSED AND CLARIFIED.

2. AS REPORTED EARLIER, THE COMMITTEE EXPECTS RECEIPT OF A REPORT ON PHASE I IMMEDIATELY. ONE OF THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTED THAT IT WOULD BE INCONCEIVABLE THAT SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH OF THE NATURE PERFORMED BY ALPHA HELIX WOULD NOT COMPUTERIZE DATA COLLECTED. A COPY OF THE TAPES ON WHICH THIS DATA IS COLLECTED IS ALSO REQUIRED.

3. WITH REGARD TO PHASE VII, AND AS EMBASSY HAS REPORTED ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS OVER THE PAST NINE MONTHS, A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK TO BE PERFORMED IS AN INDISPENSABLE REQUIREMENT BEFORE ANY AGREEMENT TO GO AHEAD CAN BE GIVEN. THE RESPECTIVE HEADS OF
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BOGOTA 00975 011319Z

THE INTERESTED COLOMBIAN INSTITUTES HAVE NOT REPEAT NOT BEEN PROVIDED WITH THIS INFORMATION AT ANY TIME DESPITE THEIR REQUESTS, SOME OF WHICH WERE TRANSMITTED THROUGH THE EMBASSY AND SOME OF WHICH WERE MADE DIRECTLY TO DR. SCHULTES. DURING THE COURSE OF THE MEETING, THEY MADE IT VERY CLEAR THAT DETAILED PROGRAMS FOR RESEARCH SENT INFORMALLY

TO SUBORDINATES IN THEIR INSTITUTES COULD IN NO MANNER BE CONSIDERED COMPLIANCE WITH THIS REQUIREMENT.

4. THE SAME SITUATION APPLIES TO THE REQUIREMENT FOR A DETAILED MAP SHOWING THE EXACT AREAS TO BE VISITED IN PHASE VII.

5. IT WAS EMPHASIZED BY THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN THE STRONGEST TERMS THAT NO ACTION COULD OR WOULD BE TAKEN ON PHASE VII UNTIL THE DETAILED WORK DESCRIPTION AND MAP HAD BEEN RECEIVED AND CAREFULLY STUDIED. IN ANSWER TO A DIRECT QUESTION, DR. PINTO STATED THAT IT WOULD TAKE A MINIMUM OF ONE MONTH FROM THE DATE HE RECEIVED THE DOCUMENTS UNTIL THE NAMES OF THE COLOMBIAN PARTICIPANTS AND THE AGREEMENT TO GO AHEAD COULD BE GIVEN.

6. CONCERNING THE APPLICATION OF RESOLUTION 626 BIS, THE COMMITTEE INDICATED THAT ARTICLE 3 SPECIFICALLY MUST BE COMPLIED WITH. ACCORDING TO DR. SOTO, THE CONTRIBUTION EQUIVALENT TO 30 PER CENT OF THE BUDGET FOR PHASE VII COULD BE MADE IN EQUIPMENT RATHER THAN CASH, ALTHOUGH THE EQUIPMENT TO BE PROVIDED WOULD BE SPECIFIED BY ICA (COLOMBIAN INSTITUTE OF ANTHROPOLOGY) AND MIGHT INCLUDE SOME OF THE EQUIPMENT USED BY THE EXPEDITION. IN ANSWER TO A DIRECT QUESTION, THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS STATED THAT THE DETERMINATION THAT PHASE VII HAD ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASPECTS WAS NOT RELATED TO THE PRESENCE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BOGOTA 00975 011319Z

OF DR. SCHULTES OF TO ANY OTHER INDIVIDUAL MEMBER OF THE GROUP, BUT RATHER TO THE NATURE OF THE WORK TO BE DONE. DR. PINTO EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO SAVE THE SITUATION BY ELIMINATING SPECIFIC SCIENTISTS FROM THE GROUP.

7. MUCH TIME WAS SPENT DISCUSSING THE REQUIREMENT TO MAKE A 30 PER CENT CONTRIBUTION. EMBASSY OFFICERS REPEATEDLY MADE IT CLEAR THAT NO SUCH CONTRIBUTION COULD BE MADE AND THAT IF THE REQUIREMENT WAS MAINTAINED, PHASE VII OF THE EXPEDITION WOULD HAVE TO BE CANCELLED. FINALLY, DR. SOTO AND DR. PINTO BOTH AGREED THAT THE FINAL DECISION ON THE APPLICABILITY OF ARTICLE 3 OF RESOLUTION 626 BIS COULD BE POSTPONED UNTIL THE DETAILED WORK PROGRAM AND MAP FOR PHASE VII HAD BEEN RECEIVED AND CAREFULLY STUDIED. ALTHOUGH THIS WOULD APPEAR TO LEAVE THE DOOR TO APPROVAL OF PHASE VII OPEN A CRACK, EMBASSY OFFICERS ARE NOT AT ALL SANGUINE ABOUT POSSIBILITY

FOR EVENTUAL APPROVAL OF EXPEDITION WITH WAIVER OF
REQUIREMENT UNDER ARTICLE 3.

8. COMMENT. IT WAS EVIDENT IN COURSE OF MEETING
THAT CERTAIN COMMITTEE MEMBERS (ESPECIALLY DRS. SOTO
AND PINTO) WERE HIGHLY ANNOYED BY WHAT THEY CONSIDER
HIGH-HANDED OBEHAVIOR ON THE PART OF ORGANIZERS OF
EXPEDITION IN PREMATURELY NAMING COLOMBIAN
PARTICIPANTS AND IN COMMUNICATING DIRECTLY WITH
THESE PRESUMED PARTICIPANTS. WHILE THIS MAY APPEAR
TO BE A BAD CASE OF HYPERSENSITIVITY ON THE PART
OF THE COLOMBIANS, IT IS CLEAR THAT THIS HAS
SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECTED THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARD THE
EXPEDITION. THE REPEATED FAILURE ON THE PART OF
THE ORGANIZERS TO HEED THE REQUESTS FOR A DETAILED
WORK PROGRAM AND THE WARNINGS THAT RESOLUTION 626
BIS APPLIED AND MUST BE COMPLIED WITH, HAS LED TO
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 BOGOTA 00975 011319Z

THE PRESENT IMPASSE.

9. IN SUMMARY, IN ORDER TO MOVE AHEAD, IT IS
NECESSARY THAT A REPORT (WITH ANNEXES AND MAGNETIC
TAPES) FOR PHASE I BE TRANSMITTED IMMEDIATELY TO
THE EMBASSY (C/O JOSEPH L. SMITH, AMERICAN EMBASSY
APO NEW YORK 90895) FOR FORWARDING TO THE MINISTRY
OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND THAT THE DETAILED WORK
PROGRAM WITH SCALE MAP COVERING PHASE VII ALSO BE
TRANSMITTED IMMEDIATELY TO THE EMBASSY FOR FORWARDING
TO THE MINISTRY. EMBASSY WILL AWAIT FURTHER
INSTRUCTIONS FROM DEPARTMENT.
SANCHEZ

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH, ALPHA HELIX R/V
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 31-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BOGOTA00975
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770035-0547
Format: TEL
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977014/aaaaadbn.tel
Line Count: 152
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c65f47d5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BOGOTA 865
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3566550
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALPHA HELIX EXPEDITION - PHASE VII
TAGS: OCLR, TGEN, CO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c65f47d5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009